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HARVARD LAW REVIEW.

Published Monthly, during the Academic Year, by Harvard Law Students.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, \$2.50 PER ANNUM. 35 CENTS PER NUMBER.

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WE call attention with much pleasure to the generous offer, by the Harvard Law School Association, of a \$100 prize for the best essay written by a student in the present third-year Law School class on any one of the following subjects:—

1. The principle underlying the maxim *volenti non fit injuria*, and the application of the maxim in cases where a servant sues his master to recover damages resulting from the master's failure to comply with the statutory requirements designed to secure the safety of the servant.

2. The extent to which, in the United States, private rights of property may be affected without compensation by the exercise of the police power.

3. The obligations of railroad companies impliedly assumed by the exercise of the power of eminent domain or the acceptance of State aid.

The essays must be sent on or before June 1, 1889, to Louis D. Brandeis, Esq., Secretary of the Association, Room 13, 60 Devonshire street, Boston.

Messrs. Austen G. Fox, Samuel B. Clarke, and Victor Morawetz, of New York, the committee who selected the subjects, will also award the prize.

THE following extract is taken from President Eliot's Annual Report:¹—

"The Law School had a year of great prosperity in 1887-88. The number of students increased twenty per cent., the Story Professorship was filled again, after having been vacant four years, and the Harvard Law School Association gave the school \$1,000 with which to increase the amount of instruction in Constitutional Law during the year 1888-89.

"The Dean's report gives much information about the sources of the supply of students for the Law School. . . . It appears that the States which have yielded a steady supply of students since the three years' course was established in 1877-78, are California, Illinois, Maine,²

¹ Annual Report of the President and Treasurer of Harvard College, 1887-88, p. 14.

² Except in one year.

Massachusetts, Missouri,¹ New Hampshire,¹ New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania,¹ and Vermont. As regards colleges other than Harvard which feed the School, the Dean's tables show that one hundred and twenty-five institutions scattered all over the country have sent four hundred and sixty-three students in eighteen years, but that only four — namely, Amherst (with twenty-five graduates), Bowdoin (with nineteen), Brown (with twenty-eight), and Yale (with forty-seven) — can be said to be constant contributors. Dartmouth (with eighteen graduates), Michigan (with twelve), Oberlin (with thirteen since 1877-78), Princeton (with thirteen), and Williams (with eighteen), have been less regular contributors; and no other institution has sent more than nine students in the eighteen years which the tables cover. . . . As the Dean points out, the most important change which has taken place in the School since 1870-71, apart from improvements in the scheme and methods of the instruction, is to be found in the increased length of residence of the average student."

PROFESSOR LANGDELL'S report, as Dean of the Law School, contains a number of tables of great interest, showing in detail the attendance at the Law School during the last eighteen years; the results of the various examinations; the number of honor degrees; the States, countries, and colleges from which the students have come since 1870; and the fractional part of each Harvard College class, since 1834, which it has sent to the Law School.²

The following table, based upon two tables in the report, shows the number of the new students who have entered the School in each year, during the last eighteen years, together with the total number of students in all classes registered during each year:—

YEAR.	Harvard Graduates entering.	Graduates of other Colleges entering.	Non-Graduates entering.	Whole Number of New Students entering.	Total Number of Students registered.
1870-71 . . .	19	41	45	105	165
1871-72 . . .	26	30	36	92	138
1872-73 . . .	22	25	40	87	117
1873-74 . . .	29	29	37	95	141
1874-75 . . .	40	15	47	102	144
1875-76 . . .	39	28	52	119	173
1876-77 . . .	47	30	51	128	199
1877-78 . . .	47	32	32	111	196
1878-79 . . .	38	24	40	102	169
1879-80 . . .	59	17	48	124	177
1880-81 . . .	41	19	31	91	161
1881-82 . . .	29	24	44	97	161
1882-83 . . .	33	23	28	84	138
1883-84 . . .	47	14	25	86	150
1884-85 . . .	56	23	22	101	156
1885-86 . . .	35	25	28	88	158
1886-87 . . .	46	34	33	113	188
1887-88 . . .	52	30	52	134	225

¹ Except in one year.

² President's Report, pp. 92-105.

[It will be remembered that the three years' course went into operation in 1877-78.]

"It is," as is pointed out in Professor Langdell's report, "only in . . . graduates of Harvard College that the School has had any growth during the last eighteen years in respect to the number of students who have entered it. In that class the growth has undoubtedly been great, but yet not greater than the classes in Harvard College."

The graduates of other colleges "who have entered the School during the last eighteen years have come from no less than one hundred and twenty-four different colleges, no one of which has sent an average of three in each year, and only one of which (Yale) has sent an average of two in each year. . . . It seems pretty clear . . . that the number of students coming to the School from other colleges has diminished since the establishment of the three years' course, but it also seems probable that the lowest point has been reached, and that now an improvement is going on."

The non-graduates "who have entered the School during the last eighteen years have come from forty-four different States or countries, while no one State or country, except Massachusetts, has furnished an average of three in each year, and only two besides Massachusetts (namely, New York and Ohio) have furnished an average of two in each year. Massachusetts has furnished an average of twelve in each year." The figures "seem to show that the number . . . has been gradually diminishing ever since the establishment of the three years' course and the examination for admission." . . .

"The years 1886-87 and 1887-88 have been distinguished for a large increase in the total number of students entering the school, the number having risen from 88 in 1885-86, to 113 in 1886-87 (an increase of 25), and to 134 in 1887-88 (an increase of 21). . . . In the now current year, the total number of new entries is less by 21 than at the corresponding date of 1887-88." [This decrease, it is pointed out, is chiefly in the number of non-graduates entering the School. The large number (52) of such entries in 1887-88 seems to have been entirely "abnormal."]

"The greatest as well as the most important growth that the School has had during the last eighteen years in undoubtedly to be found, not in the number of students who have entered the School, but in the length of time that students have remained in it; and in this latter particular the current year is not disappointing; for the falling off in new entries is more than made up by an increased number of old students, the total number appearing in the annual catalogue for 1887-88 being 215, while the total number to appear in the annual catalogue of the current year will be 217."

In the nine years since the Law School honor degree was established, from 1879-80 to 1887-88, inclusive, it has been granted to only 65 students.¹

¹ President's Report, p. 94.